

# GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

June 24, 2005

8:30 a.m.

## MINUTES

### GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair  
Michael Prince  
Linda Scarpetta  
Dwight Sinila  
F/Lt. Thad Peterson  
John Friend  
Cherie Mollison  
Sheriff Al Byam  
Chief David Stamm

### REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor  
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)  
Department of Community Health (MDCH)  
Department of Education (MDE)  
Department of State Police (MSP)  
Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Office of Services to the Aging  
Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association  
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chief's of Police

### STAFF

Sue Joseph

### GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Ron Wilson  
Vacant

Department of State (DOS)  
Local Representative – Road Commission

### ACTION TEAMS

Homer Smith/MADD-Michigan	Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving
Jim Culp/MDOT	Decision Making Process and Information Systems – Traffic Records Coordinating Council
Kathy Farnum/OHSP	Decision Making Process and Information Systems – Process Evaluation
Gary Bubar/AAA	Drivers Ages 24 and Younger Action Team
Todd Kauffman/MDOT	Non-Motorized Transportation – Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Action Team

### GUESTS

Cindy Agle  
Jack Benac  
Lance Binoniemi  
Pam Hall  
Sandy Liddle  
Karen MacMaster  
Richard Miller  
Jeff Mitchell  
Mouhamad Naboulsi  
Steven Puuri  
Mary Wichman

### REPRESENTING

Michigan Resource Center for Health and Safety  
Michigan Department of Information Technology  
Michigan Licensed Beverage Association  
Office of Services to the Aging  
Office of Financial and Insurance Services  
MSP/Project Office  
AAA of Michigan  
Van Buren County Road Commission  
Applied Computer Technology  
Washtenaw Area Transportation Study  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introductions completed. F/Lt. Thad Peterson was announced as the new representative for the Michigan Department of State Police.

### Public Comment/Announcement Items

Citizen letter from Norman Keon as well as the response from OHSP was distributed to all GTSAC Commissioners in their folder packet of information for the meeting.

### Approval of GTSAC April 22, 2005 Minutes

The April 22, 2005, minutes were approved. **Cherie Mollison made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Dwight Sinila. Motion passed.**

### Reports/Updates

#### ➤ Chair Report – Robert Morris

Chair Robert Morris, as well as other representatives of the GTSAC, presented at the Child Passenger Safety Assessment earlier this month. Linda Scarpetta will report in more depth during her commissioner update.

➤ **Discussion of GTSAC Support of Legislative and Other Policy Issues – Robert Morris**

With all the discussions regarding the motorcycle helmet law issue, at the last commission meeting as well as outside discussions with commissioners, it is felt the legislative handling of issues should be discussed at the meeting to clarify the role of the Commission. All in attendance agreed that the GTSAC is an advisory group and has the obligation to advise the Governor on traffic related legislation. Any GTSAC correspondence to the Governor should be strictly in an advisory capacity stating the facts and not advising to support or oppose proposed legislation and ensure all issues are handled in the same manner. The discussions at these meetings are very helpful to update respective departments regarding proposed legislation and to help in the decision of individual department roles in traffic safety related legislative issues. A roll-call vote will be taken on all issues prior to a letter being developed so agencies can abstain on record for particular issues that may be in conflict with their department. Once the letter is drafted it will be sent through electronic mail to all commissioners for review and comments prior to the finalization of the letter. Also for future discussions on legislative issues, an advance notice will be sent to commissioners that a particular legislative issue will be discussed at the meeting. Legislative issues should also be discussed at the Action Team meetings. The Action Team should plan to attend the meeting where the legislative issue will be discussed to further help the GTSAC with the issue.

➤ **Legislative Report**

Report distributed through the listserv as well as copies available regarding traffic safety legislative issues. The motorcycle helmet issue was discussed and, as outlined above, it was suggested that a generic letter be prepared focusing on helmet safety. The letter would provide motorcycle helmet data and information on the experiences of other states after the repeal of their helmet law. The letter will be e-mailed to commissioners for review prior to sending to the Governor. **Motion made by John Friend to draft a letter to the Governor regarding the traffic safety facts related to Motorcycle Safety. Motion seconded by Linda Scarpetta. Motion passed with a roll-call vote of Robert Morris, Michael Prince, Sheriff Al Byam, John Friend, Cherie Mollison, Linda Scarpetta, Dwight Sinila, Chief David Stamm, F/Lt. Thad Peterson voting yes.**

Child Passenger Safety legislation will be discussed at the August meeting prior to a roll-call vote and draft letter development for the Governor.

**GTSAC Commissioner Update**

➤ **Community Health – Linda Scarpetta**

As mentioned earlier, the CPS Assessment was conducted on June 6-9, 2005 with OHSP and MDCH preparing meeting details and materials. The draft report will be reviewed and finalized. Once finalized, the report will be presented at a future GTSAC meeting. The final report will also be shared with the Occupant Protection (Michigan Child Passenger Safety Coalition) Action Team for a strategic planning session to develop an action plan.

➤ **Education – Dwight Sinila**

Public Transportation Act draft has been distributed to stakeholders for review and comment. School Bus Training Grant Funds are being solicited by the Michigan Department of Education.

➤ **State – Ron Wilson**

No report.

➤ **State Police – F/Lt. Thad Peterson**

The Alcohol Enforcement Unit is testing new datamaster Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) units. The Traffic Services Section is working with MCOLES to have SFST trainings held at the MSP Training Academy. Possible Vehicle Code Refresher Training is being investigated geared toward participant interest. F/Lt. Peterson also distributed the MSP Field Services Update newsletter for issues #4 and #5. School bus crash data is being reviewed to determine if trends can be identified for the last three years. The Operation CARE project is being expanded to include more locals in the project.

➤ **Transportation – John Friend**

Construction zones are in full swing with enforcement grants available for work zone safety. The speed issue for cone and barrel construction zones is being discussed. Funding in relation to TEA-21 is still pending in Washington. Discussions are being held regarding a possible Safety Conference for the fall of 2006. The conference would mainly be focused on engineering solutions for local roads where 60% of fatal crashes are recorded. Local level road commission staff members work very closely with local law enforcement in relation to mapping crashes and determining the crash road conditions.

➤ **OSA – Cherie Mollison**

Elderly mobility forums have been conducted around the state. Currently compiling all the data received from these forums and will share the outcome at a future GTSAC meeting.

➤ **OHSP – Mike Prince**

Click It or Ticket mobilization took place May 26 to June 6. Statistics from the mobilization on felony arrests, suspended drivers, child passenger safety violations as well as alcohol related issues were shared. Enforcement efforts will take place throughout the summer. Statewide belt survey numbers are due shortly. Placemats and flyers were distributed to showcase the new US2 project, Operation SABRE, which is taking place in the Upper Peninsula. Traffic Safety Summit will be held February 28-March 1, 2006. OHSP will have a booth at FanFest a part of the All-Star Festivities. The booth will allow fans to record a Traffic Safety Public Service Announcement. OHSP will also sponsor a booth at the Michigan State Fair.

- **Local Representation** – Chief David Stamm – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP)  
MACP Summer Conference will be June 26 – 29, 2005 features workshops on Fatal Accident Crash Team (FACT) which is a one team investigation approach to alcohol related crashes and Operation Lifesaver which relates to train/car crashes. Genesee County has received grant money to distribute bicycle helmets this summer season.
- **Local Representation** – Sheriff Al Byam – Michigan Sheriff's Association  
MSA held their annual meeting earlier this month. The meeting covered many legislative issues. Enforcement in cooperation with the OHSP grants, Click It or Ticket and the You Drink and Drive. You Lose. are in full swing and will continue through the summer. The Marshall State Farm Office will be closing and with that closing the Calhoun County Police Department will see a very valuable partner leaving the local area. They were very supportive and helpful with all the area traffic safety issues.

## **Action Area Team Reports**

Need to have those action teams that have not yet reported on current activity to report. The August and October meetings will be for action teams to report out on the developed action plans for each team. These team action plans will guide the GTSAC activities for the next few years. Action Teams should feel free to bring team members to the GTSAC meeting when their team will present the action plan.

- **Decision Making Process and Information System/Traffic Records – Jim Culp/MDOT**

NHTSA is planning to offer a facilitated training session on developing a "Strategic Plan for State Traffic Records Systems." The training will be piloted this fall and Michigan has volunteered to be the pilot state. After this training is completed the Traffic Records Executive Committee will develop Michigan's strategic plan.

- **Drivers Ages 24 and Younger – Gary Bubar/AAA Michigan**

A meeting was held to discuss the focus of this action team. This team will work with other action teams to address several issues. One cooperative effort will be to work with the Impaired Driving Action Team to address the drinking and driving issue of drivers age 21 to 24. The Action Team discussed a need for qualified driver education instructors and ensuring parents are informed on GDL issues. This issue will be addressed in cooperation with the Driver Advisory Task Team developed at the Department of State. The action team will meet again in August.

- **Elderly Mobility Safety – Kim Lariviere/MDOT**

Michigan was selected as one of the states to participate in a program through the AARP which will allow the Team the opportunity to interact on a national level regarding elderly mobility issues.

- **Lane Departure – Tom Bruff/SEMCOG**

Traffic Safety/Engineering Advisory Committee – Tom Bruff/SEMCOG was not able to attend but provided a printed update on the recent action team activities.

- **Motorcycle Safety – F/Lt. Thad Peterson – Co-Chair/MSP**

A meeting was held and the need for a better understanding of available data was identified to help the action team have a unified direction and course of action when developing a data driven action plan. The Team discussed the issue of motorcycle license endorsement and how to ensure motorcyclists have the proper endorsement. One possible solution discussed was a possible increase in the number of training classes offered. This possible solution will be discussed further with the Department of State. The Action Team will also be discussing at a future meeting the endorsed/certified helmet issue. A draft action plan should be ready to present at the August GTSAC meeting.

- **Non-Motorized Transportation - Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Action Team - Todd Kauffman/MDOT**

The Co-Chair, Todd Kauffman reported that the team should have the action plan ready for presentation at the August GTSAC meeting.

- **Other Driver Behavior – F/Lt. Thad Peterson/MSP**

New technology in video camera equipment is being investigated to document driver behavior such as road rage and aggressive driving. Another meeting will be scheduled for further discussion. Mouhamad Naboulsi, Applied Computer Technology, inquired on the sharing of a presentation he developed regarding hands-free cell phone use. It was agreed to share this presentation through the Listserv. Further information on this company's behalf was referred to the Other Driver Behavior Action Team since his technology would best fit with this team's focus.

## **GTSAC Administrative Items**

Adjourn. Next Meeting is August 26, 2005 at Collins Road in the Presentation Room. Discussion was held to change the August meeting date due a conflict. The meeting date will be changed to August 19, 2005.

## **Future 2005 Meeting Schedule – 4th Friday of every other month**

October 28, 2005

December 16, 2005 – Date held until determined the necessity of a December meeting.